IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

OKOMORI et al. Atty. Ref.: 159-87; Confirmation No. 3539

Appl. No. 10/527,328 TC/A.U. 1794

Filed: September 22, 2005 Examiner: Shewareged

For: ROTOGRAVURE COATED PAPERS

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May 1, 2009

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE AND PRESENTATION OF EVIDENCE

This is responsive to the Official Action of January 2, 2009, a Final Rejection. Claims 6 and 8 are pending in the application. This response accompanies a Request for Continued Examination.

In the Official Action there are three separate rejections directed to claims 6 and 8; *see* items 3, 11 and 19. All three of the rejections are based upon a primary reference of Kai et al published Japanese application JP 2002-088679 taken in view of additional documents. It is the Kai reference upon which the examiner relies for the property of density as claimed in independent claim 6 of the present application. Each rejection also includes an invitation made by the examiner for the applicants to provide evidence to support their position. Applicants accept this invitation and attached is the declaration of the senior inventor, Dr. Okomori in which he repeated Example 1 of the Kai reference except for minor modifications as given in items 1-3 of page 1 of his declaration and includes the results of the tests conducted with those given in Table 1, page 20 of the specification of the present application. These results appear in the last entry under "Experimental Test 1".

Dr. Okomori also discusses the results of his studies on page 3, items 1-5 where the differences between the claims of the present application and results obtained by applicants' process significantly differed from the results obtained in Experimental Test 1. In particular, attention is directed to the differences in stiffness and opacity. Both of these are significant differences and both relate back to the density of the base paper. In the present invention the density as claimed is a density of 1.10 g/cm^3 or less whereas Kai operates with a product having a density of 1.16 g/cm^3. In other words, the stiffness and opacity of the rotogravure coated paper of the present invention is improved over the product produced by the Kai et al reference in Experimental Test 1 reported in the attached Declaration.

See also the first paragraph of page 4 where the declarant/applicant further highlights these differences in stiffness and opacity and the practical results of same.

Having now provided evidence as suggested by the examiner applicants again submit that the claims 6 and 8 define subject matter that is patentable over the disclosures of Kai et al either considered alone or in combination with the secondary references. Reconsideration and allowance are solicited. Should the examiner require further information, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____
Arthur R. Crawford
Reg. No. 25,327

ARC:eaw
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100